LEWIS RIVER AQUATIC COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Facilitator: ERIK LESKO
503-412-8401

Location: TEAMS MEETING ONLY

Date: May 12, 2022

Time: 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

AGENDA ITEMS

9:30 AM Welcome
- Review and Accept 5/12/2022 Agenda
- Review and Accept 4/14/2022 Meeting Notes

9:45 AM Public Comment Opportunity

9:55 AM Draft Future Fish Passage Plan – *Todd Olson*
- Updates
- Downstream Fish Passage
- Upstream Fish Passage
- Compensatory Mitigation

11:25 AM Proposed Updates to the Aquatic Fund Evaluation Process – *Erik Lesko*

11:45 AM Study/Work Product Updates
- Flows/Reservoir Conditions Update
- Reservoir Shoreline Development Projects
- ATS Update
- FPS Update
- Fish Passage Update
- Annual Operations Report
- USFWS update on fish stranding above Swift (tentative)

11:50 AM Next Meeting's Agenda
- Review of monitoring proposal to evaluate fish stranding in Swift Reservoir
- Review of Yale Habitat Preparation Plan

Public Comment Opportunity

12:00 PM Meeting Adjourn

Note: all meeting notes and the meeting schedule can be located at:
https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/hydro/lewis-river/acc-tcc.html

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Or call in (audio only)

+1 563-275-5003,,644857650# United States, Davenport

Phone Conference ID: 644 857 650#

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
May 12, 2022
TEAMS Meeting Only

ACC Representatives and Affiliates Present (20)
Bridget Moran, American Rivers
Sarah Montgomery Anchor QEA
Eli Asher, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Amanda Froberg, Cowlitz PUD
Steve West, LCFRB
Steve Manlow, LCRFB
Bonnie Shorin, NMFS
Chris Karchesky, PacifiCorp
Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp
Todd Olson, PacifiCorp
Levi Pienovi, PacifiCorp
Jeremiah Doyle, PacifiCorp
Mark Ferraiolo, PacifiCorp
Jim Byrne, Trout Unlimited
Kyle Wright, USFS
Aaron Roberts, WDFW
Peggy Miller, WDFW
Josua Holowatz, WDFW
Sam Gibbons, WDFW
Bill Sharp, Yakama Nation

Guests (0)
None

Calendar:

May 12, 2022	ACC Meeting	TEAMS Meeting

Assignments from May 12, 2022	**Status**
Bonnie Shorin: convene a subgroup of ACC representatives (Glaser, Asher, Manlow) to discuss potential compensatory mitigation actions and processes.	**Ongoing.**
Erik Lesko: Include the Northshore new ramp and float project in Lake Merwin in future Shoreline Project Updates.	**Ongoing.**

Assignments from April 14, 2022	**Status**
Chris Karchesky: Consider conducting public outreach or installing signs at Yale Park to notify anglers fishing Yale Reservoir of the ongoing	**Complete**

telemetry study. (Acoustic-tagged coho should be reported as harvest and not as mortalities.)	
Erik Lesko: Coordinate with the TCC regarding the timing for WSDOT's Cougar Creek culvert project.	**Ongoing. (Currently planned for 2023.)**

Assignments from March 10, 2022	**Status**
Erik Lesko and Kate Day/Kyle Wright: Schedule a site visit to the USFS restoration projects in the Lewis River basin in summer 2022.	**Ongoing.**

Assignments from February 10, 2022	**Status**
Erik Lesko: Revise the questions in the Aquatic Fund Scoring Template to incorporate feedback from 2022 process and provide a revised template for the ACC to consider. Review process recommendations.	**Ongoing.**

Assignments from January 13, 2022	**Status**
Erik Lesko: Present monitoring strategies for fish stranding assessments in Swift Reservoir in 2022 with the ACC.	**Ongoing. (Currently in review with ATS.)**

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes
Erik Lesko (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and reviewed the agenda.

Lesko reviewed the April 14, 2022, meeting notes. The meeting notes will be approved at the next ACC meeting due to their delay in distribution.

Public Comment Opportunity
None.

Draft Future Fish Passage Plans
Todd Olson provided an update on future fish passage activities proposed at Yale and Merwin dams.

Updates
Olson said PacifiCorp is working with the Fish Passage Subgroup (FPS) to provide input to the design leads. He said the purpose of today's update is to summarize what input PacifiCorp has received over the last few weeks and provide a general response. He hopes to gain some agreement on approaches so that he can provide this information to the design team to continue moving forward.

Downstream Fish Passage
Olson said the Yale downstream facility's proposed design is a floating surface collector (FSC). The Utilities initially proposed to base the design capacity on Ecosystem Diagnosis & Treatment (EDT) modeling of juvenile fish capacity. He said the ACC provided feedback that the modeled

estimates of habitat capacity may not be sufficient. He said PacifiCorp will design for capacity above the EDT estimates, though the exact capacity is yet to be determined. He said the next steps for the Yale downstream facility design are to work on the conceptual and 30% designs, which will be shared with both the FPS and the ACC. Overall, the plan is to approach the design with large enough sideboards to accommodate a more precise understanding of capacity requirements at later stages of design. Questions and comments followed:

- Eli Asher asked how PacifiCorp has incorporated the potential influence of kokanee into the capacity for the downstream facility. Olson said kokanee collected would be released back into Yale Reservoir and the design would be large enough to accommodate potential kokanee passage. Karchesky included that PacifiCorp was reviewing how other facilities in the region have handled kokanee passage.
- Bryce Glaser said WDFW appreciates the willingness to consider a design that is sized sufficiently above the EDT modeling estimates. He said ultimately, passage would need to be adaptive enough to respond to numbers of fish exceeding the modeling limits. He noted that kokanee could produce outmigrating juveniles that would need to be collected and transported, and he suggested that the design team think about the potential for a sockeye population to establish. He said juvenile sockeye tend to outmigrate in large numbers as small fish and may present a handling issue. Olson noted Glaser's feedback.
- Karchesky noted that there did not appear to be strong evidence that kokanee readily convert to an anadromous form if given access to the ocean. He noted that other systems that provided passage at high head dams and allowed for passage of kokanee had not seen high returns of adults. Bill Sharp agreed and would forward on some literature provide by their sockeye biologist Andrew Matala for the ACC to review.
- Amanda Froberg asked if kokanee is considered a transport species in the Settlement Agreement. Olson said the transport species are coho, spring Chinook, and winter steelhead. ACC representatives discussed the kokanee population and its production in Yale Reservoir. Glaser noted that while the Settlement Agreement addresses key transport species, passage designs should consider potential anomalies like kokanee and summer steelhead that could reestablish. He asked for the Services' perspective on both species. Lesko added historical background regarding the introduction of kokanee to Merwin, Yale and Swift in the 1950's and summarized that the current hatchery program in Merwin Reservoir has been successful and that kokanee remain self-sustaining in Yale Reservoir.
- Jim Byrne asked about the attraction flow that will be needed, and if it will be similar to the Swift FSC. Karchesky said the Swift FSC was designed with an attraction flow of 600 cubic feet per second (cfs), which has since increased to around 830 cfs. Based on other similar facilities in the region, 1,000 cfs was currently being used as a starting point for the design, but he noted that the use of guidance nets and the orientation and location of the FSC play a much larger role in attracting fish.

For the Merwin downstream facility, Olson said the proposed design is a collector/bypass facility with a guide net. Olson said operations would allow fish to migrate out of Merwin Reservoir downstream though a bypass system. The original proposal was an "open door" system that would let fish freely pass. However, previous feedback from the ACC was incorporated into the current proposed design, which would allow for subsampling of fish as they pass downstream. He said the ACC's previous feedback about sampling is important to accommodating monitoring and evaluate programs.

Questions and comments were as follows:

- Glaser said his previous comments about kokanee apply to this design as well.

- Olson agreed and said PacifiCorp had proposed mitigation for the kokanee program, expecting that some kokanee would leave the reservoir. ACC representatives previously provided feedback that more work should be done up front to understand the actual or potential impacts to the program before more fish are produced as mitigation. Olson said previous suggestions included fishery and creel surveys in Merwin Reservoir. Once more is understood about impacts to the fishery, the level of mitigation needed can be discussed. Olson said this approach makes sense, and PacifiCorp is interested in supporting this effort at the same expected cost of what was initially proposed as hatchery mitigation. Olson said PacifiCorp is looking forward to working with WDFW to develop this study plan.
- Glaser said he will need to better understand the amount that PacifiCorp is proposing to determine whether it would be adequate the answer the questions that might be developed as part of the study. He said one important question to consider is how the hatchery program is contributing to the population in the reservoir, and hatchery fish may need to be marked to answer this question. He said this question may even fall under standard hatchery evaluation work, so there is room to be creative about how to answer the emerging questions. Glaser also suggested that the active angler group may be a source of support for these studies, and he looks forward to moving these discussions and studies forward along with PacifiCorp.
- Bonnie Shorin noted that NMFS considers compensatory mitigation in a broader sense, and she brought up previous discussions about mitigation for lost productivity over the several years of delay in passage that will occur. Olson said mitigation for lost production is on the agenda today.

Upstream Fish Passage

Olson said the two upstream passage facilities are in the Yale Dam tailrace for fish moving upstream from Merwin Reservoir and at the base of Swift Dam for fish moving upstream out of Yale Reservoir. Olson said these two facilities are focused more on bull trout, salmon, and steelhead upstream passage. PacifiCorp's initial proposal was for these facilities to be sized to accommodate expected bull trout migration, including straying out of the two reservoirs. Initial feedback from the ACC was that the design team should consider future ability to expand the physical or operational capacity for full "swim-through" passage later. Olson said PacifiCorp wants to better understand at what point the programs would be shifted to swim-through passage. He said he agrees this can be part of the adaptive management process but is curious as to what decision points would be needed to make this operational change. Questions and comments were as follows:

- Glaser said there could be many perspectives on this, and he suggested assigning this topic to the FPS. The FPS could discuss and make a recommendation on short term versus long term passage options. This could include developing thresholds, decision frameworks, and more details about options for passage and phasing.
- Asher disagreed with the characterization of upstream passage being focused primarily on bull trout. He said the initial proposal was not sufficient to address the true need of providing passage for all fish where they want to go. He said the end-goal should be swim-through passage, though he agrees it is not immediately appropriate to transport all the adults into Merwin Reservoir only.
- Steve Manlow agreed that the FPS should take on this question. He said qualitatively, the goal is to maximize historic spatial distribution, rebuild the populations within the recovery framework, and consider total habitat capacities for self-sustaining populations, not just the minimum EDT estimates. He suggested revisiting the VSP goals in each

reservoir and considering design options that will accommodate those goals while also considering the impacts of handling fish more than necessary.

- Glaser added that harvest will be an important component of determining the potential capacity for self-sustaining populations. He suggested not losing sight of potential surprises such as sockeye reestablishing and how those changes will be handled in regard to ESA-listed species.
- Manlow agreed and said the targets that should be considered in facility design should be healthy and harvestable targets, not just the minimum viability targets for delisting.
- Bill Sharp added that the Yakama Nation is interested in harvest opportunities and has started preliminary discussions about the transport plans. One question was whether a fish that is handled during transport is culturally acceptable for subsistence and ceremonial uses, and these fish are acceptable for use. He said the Yakama Nation will continue discussions with the comanagers on harvest goals and opportunities. He asked about the historic presence of sockeye in the reservoirs. Olson said he is not aware of mainstem lakes being historically present. Glaser agreed and said there were some additional barrier falls, which is one reason there could have been summer steelhead in some of the upper areas. So, the challenge is that habitat has been created that is now well suited to a fish that was likely not historically present. Sharp suggested conferring with Yakama Nation fishery biologist Andrew Matala, who has experience with sockeye reintroduction in the Cle Elum system, on questions related to sockeye introduction into the reservoirs.

Olson thanked ACC representatives present for their feedback and said PacifiCorp welcomes feedback that can help direct the design team at any time.

Compensatory Mitigation

Olson said the Utilities are interested in hearing the ACC's thoughts on what compensatory mitigation for lost production due to timing delays could potentially look like. He clarified that this is a conceptual discussion and there are no commitments from the Utilities about mitigation at this time.

Bonnie Shorin said she is interested in evaluating mitigation options that would increase the success of passage once it is implemented. For example, she said there is a blockage on Speelyai Creek that, if removed, could make more habitat available. Shorin suggested that a subgroup meet and develop options for compensatory mitigation that might be considered. Glaser said WDFW has started discussing this topic internally and can contribute to a subgroup. He said mitigation options could range from habitat restoration to other actions that could advance recovery and help better understand the system. He suggested that the subgroup discussions stay separate from the FPS so that the FPS can focus on technical aspects of fish passage.

Manlow agreed with the approach to convene a subgroup. He said he favors the approach of removing barriers to habitat that is already high quality (like in Speelyai Creek) rather than restoring habitat that is not as high quality. He said high quality habitat exists in many places in the basin and the watersheds have high potential for steelhead and coho production. He said one option would be to add funds to the Aquatic Fund to implement such projects. Regarding the blockage on Speelyai Creek, which is a hatchery intake, he said he understands implications with water supply. Glaser said policy considerations would be needed when discussing this diversion, as well as operational considerations like fish health and potential effects to spring Chinook programs. This location is a good example of one potential mitigation action that would require more discussion, consideration, and prioritization.

Shorin will convene a subgroup of Glaser, Manlow, and Asher to continue these discussions.

Olson thanked the ACC for their input on the future fish passage agenda topics and said PacifiCorp will continue engaging in the FPS meetings, with updates provided by the project and design leads.

Aquatic Fund Updates
Lesko said he has been working on revisions to the Aquatic Fund Scoring Template (Attachment A) since the ACC's last funding cycle. He will provide the revisions later for ACC review but said he can go over some of the main changes he is working on today.

Lesko summarized key points learned in the last funding cycle. He said there are three areas that he is focusing on making changes: 1) making the process more inclusive, 2) improve early engagement with applicants, and 3) modify the evaluation questions to better align with the scoring template. He said that early engagement with applicants should help identify fatal flaws for applicants to consider prior to drafting final proposals. One area of support is identifying a point person for questions about the process. There were also concerns raised during the last funding cycle about inclusivity of the public, which some of his proposed changes address.

He said a key aspect of the process that should not change is the number of review cycles by the ACC and that the risk of rejection ultimately lies with the applicants. He said the goal is not to increase the workload for the ACC, but to improve coordination and support.

He shared the schedule and milestones for the 2022/2023 funding cycle, which is similar to the 2022 schedule. He said he added a placeholder for a liaison to act on behalf of the Utilities, who can coordinate with applicants on questions like insurance requirements and who can provide process-based recommendations and feedback (such as suggestions for partnering with other entities). This liaison would not provide technical feedback on the merits of any proposed project.

Lesko shared a revised list of evaluation questions. It was suggested that the existing questions are binary (yes/no) and do not lend themselves to scoring on a one to ten scale. Also, some of questions are phrased in a way that suggests a high score implies a negative aspect instead of a positive. He rephrased them as statements instead of questions.

Questions and comments from the ACC were as follows:
- Peggy Miller suggested providing alternate wording for some of the questions that would apply to design-only projects.
- Steve Manlow said he does not see much value added in converting the questions into statements and cautioned against changing the meaning of the questions through wordsmithing. He said he agrees with Lesko's ideas to provide more coordination throughout the process but does not necessarily agree that inclusivity is a major issue needing to be addressed. Rather, more transparency or clarity is needed in how the process works and what types of projects are a good fit for the Aquatic Fund.
- Asher agreed with Manlow regarding clarity about how the program is implemented. He said he appreciates the revisions Lesko is suggesting to the questions but is not immediately concerned with grammatical changes to the questions. Asher asked Lesko if he is comfortable acting as both the liaison and as PacifiCorp's scoring lead. Asher said he does not see a conflict of interest but noted that it might be easier for Lesko to delegate

the liaison role or the scoring instead of doing both. He also suggested requiring a pre-application meeting, which is an opportunity to provide feedback to project sponsors on whether their project is unlikely to be funded or has major flaws.

- Lesko asked if any ACC representatives see an issue with the Utilities providing the liaison for the Aquatic Fund applications, and if it were him, whether he could also score the projects. No issues were raised with this approach, and Miller suggested providing caveats about any feedback to the applicant when acting as the liaison.

Lesko thanked the ACC for their input and said he will revise questions to incorporate feedback received today and will send it back out for the ACC to review.

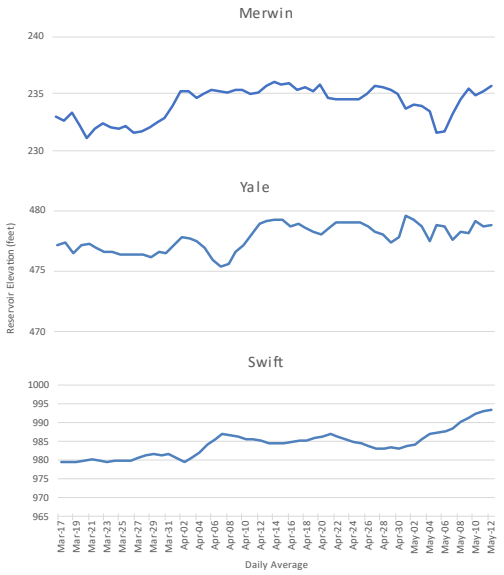
Study/Work Product Updates

Flows/Reservoir Conditions Update

Lesko shared the flows and reservoir conditions update:

Daily Average Reservoir Elevations – past 55days

Total Reservoir draft
-21.44 feet
(-11.44 with Yale restriction)

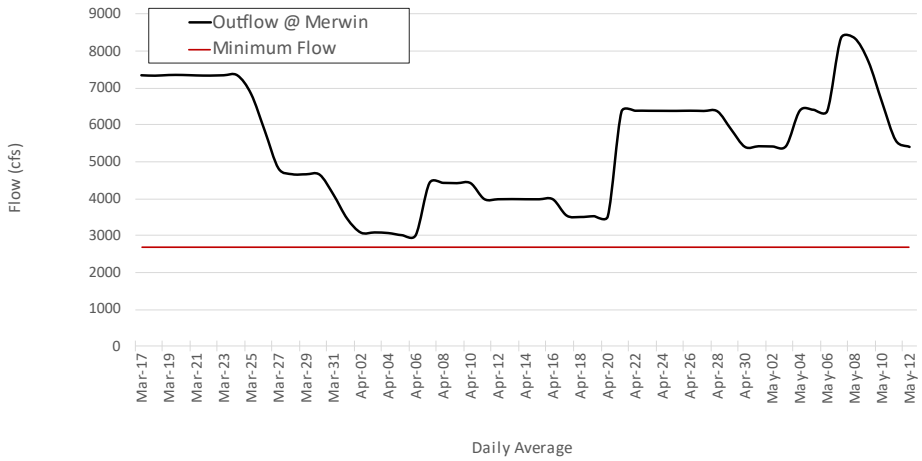


-3.53 feet

-11.4 feet

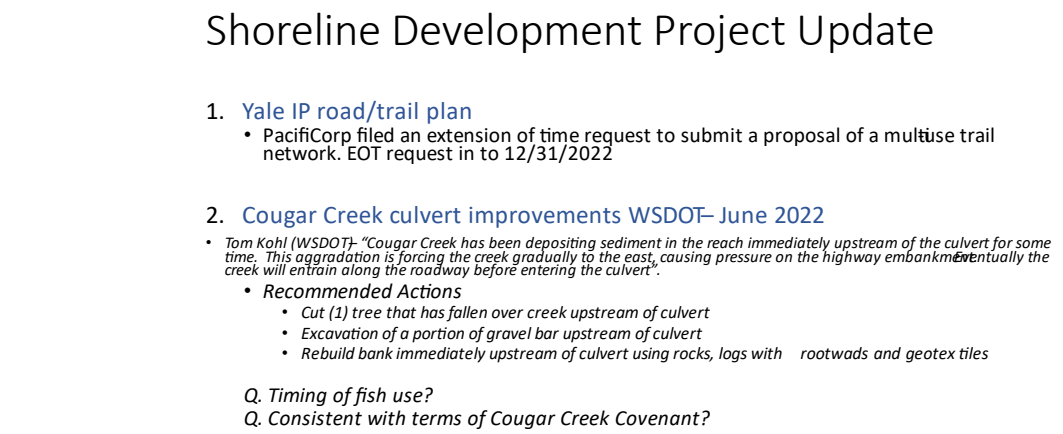
-6.5 feet

Merwin Dam – Outflow and Minimum Flows – past 60 days



He said the reservoirs are currently being filled for recreational purposes (with Memorial Day weekend upcoming). Since the April meeting, the reservoir elevations have increased, with total draft on all three reservoirs at 21 feet of total draft (11.44 feet including the Yale Reservoir restriction).

Shoreline Development Update
Lesko provided an update on various shoreline development and other projects:



- Camper's Hideaway: Lesko said FERC filed a notice for an application for non-Project use of Project lands, with comments due May 26. He said these public notices are available from FERC.
    - Steve Manlow asked about the Utilities' role in determining mitigation for impacts to endangered species that have already been analyzed in the Biological Opinion.
    - Todd Olson said PacifiCorp has a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) that was developed after the FERC license was received. There is a process for project applicants to apply for shoreline development, such as new or upgraded facilities. The SMP specifies areas where development is and is not allowed. For example, any areas within the Wildlife Habitat Management Plan are not available for development. The Utilities' review of projects under the SMP includes identifying any safety or operational concerns of the project, like potential effects to flow or spill gates, or operational impediments at different reservoir elevations. Structural consideration is given to projects like new docks. The Utilities also review the project for cultural considerations. If criteria under the SMP are met, the project is given "Pre-Approval" to seek local, state, and or federal permits as needed. Any compensatory mitigation or consultation on endangered species would occur through those permit approvals. Once the project proponent has the necessary state, local, or federal permits, the Utilities issue the shoreline permit and the project can move forward.
    - Manlow thanked Olson for the explanation and summarized that the Utilities' nexus for approving projects is through their SMP, which focuses on system operations and safety, whereas impacts to natural resources and land use are under the purview of county and other permitting entities. Olson agreed and said FERC's direction to

the Utilities is to maintain reservoir operations within the boundary of the SMP and review projects.

- Northshore new ramp and float project in Lake Merwin: Steve Manlow said he saw a proposed development project for a new ramp and float that has a pending Hydraulic Project Approval application. Steve West noted that the SEPA documentation provides details on the project including its location (836 Woodland Park Road in Ariel, WA) and purpose. Lesko said he will follow up on this new project and include it in his updates moving forward.

ATS Update

Erik Lesko said he is still working with Anchor QEA and the ATS to finalize the 2022 Annual Operating Plan. Sections related to genetics and monitoring and evaluation have changed significantly and have required input from Kale Bentley (WDFW) and Larissa Rohrbach (Anchor QEA). They are also working to develop the protocol for calculating smolt to adult return rates, in coordination with the study plan that was developed for spring Chinook rearing and release evaluations. Overall, the 2022 AOP will be a working version as edits continue to be made through the ATS.

Chris Karchesky said "spring time" Monitoring and Evaluation Program activities are underway and there are no significant updates to provide at this time.

FPS Update

Bryce Glaser said the FPS discussed future fish passage during their last meeting, and Todd Olson joined the meeting to introduce PacifiCorp's project leads and provide more detail on the proposed plans. The FPS is working on how to stay coordinated and provide input on the plans. They are working to consider what transport scenarios may be needed over the long term and how that could impact design of the fish passage structures. As discussed during the April ACC meeting, a few studies were kicked off quickly in 2022 in order to provide information to the design team in summer and fall 2022. So, as PacifiCorp progresses with the schedule, the FPS will have more involvement in planning studies in the future. The FPS will have a meeting next week, and discussions can continue regarding the proposed designs. He asked if there are any additional updates or agenda topics needed, and none were provided.

Merwin Fish Passage Update (see also Attachment B)

Chris Karchesky reported that the Merwin Trap was currently in operation. He said the spring Chinook returns have been very good to date, with over 2,000 fish arriving at the Merwin Trap. Broodstock collection is ahead of schedule, and hatchery surplus fish have started being taken upstream. So far, 870 spring Chinook have been transported upstream. He said transport numbers in 2022 may very likely exceed those transported in 2017, which totaled 800 adults and 300 jacks passed upstream. He said overall, the run is approaching the historic halfway mark and returns are looking good. Josua Holowatz said WDFW is supportive of passing HOR spring Chinook above hatchery need upstream from Lewis River Hatchery, and hatchery staff will coordinate with PacifiCorp staff on the logistics. He noted that there may be in-season fishing rule changes that could affect this stock too, all with the intent of continuing the stock on the path to reintroduction. Karchesky thanked Holowatz for the update and said staff will stay coordinated on the fishery reopening and logistics for transport.

Karchesky said winter steelhead upstream transport from Merwin Trap has been going well so far this season, with approximately 600 fish transported upstream. Aaron Roberts said spring

Chinook broodstock collection has been going well, and the collection curve is approximately halfway through. He said the stock appears to be doing well.
Juvenile mass marking at Lewis River Hatchery has begun.

Swift Floating Surface Collector (see also Attachment C)
Chris Karchesky reported that the Swift Reservoir FSC was currently in operation. He said some debris events have occurred but the modifications that were made to the facility last fall, like travelling screens, have significantly helped debris management and debris issues in 2022 have been minimal compared to previous years. He said the Swift FSC is collecting a few hundred fish per day, mostly coho salmon, though steelhead are starting to increase. He said the numbers of fish are somewhat depressed compared to previous years at this time, but water temperatures in the reservoir are also several degrees cooler than the historic temperatures. He expects the numbers of fish to increase quickly when the temperature increases. Monitoring and evaluation work is underway, including the collection efficiency evaluation at the Swift FSC and the behavioral study in Yale Reservoir (which is being conducted to inform the Yale downstream passage design). Passive integrated transponder and acoustic tag data are being downloaded in-season for both studies, and he will provide updates to the ACC when more information is available.

Annual Operations Report
Lesko reported that the Draft 2021 Annual Operating Report was provided to the ACC on May 6 for a 30-day review, with comments due back on June 6. He said FERC issued the requested extension for the submittal date, so the report is officially due to FERC on June 30. FERC also accepted the 2021 Aquatic Fund Report on May 5. He said these documents are updated on the ACC website and he will continue making updates to the website, including the 2022 ACC meeting notes.

Lewis River Fish Passage
See Attachment D.

Services Update on Fish Stranding Above Swift Dam
No update was available. Lesko noted that a Draft Swift Reservoir Stranding Survey Plan will be provided to the ACC in June after the ATS has had time to review the draft plan.

Public Comment Opportunity
None present.

Agenda Items for June 9, 2022
- Review May 12, 2022, Meeting Notes
- Monitoring Proposal to evaluate fish stranding in Swift Reservoir (Update)
- Aquatic Fund Updates
- Study/Work Product Updates

Adjourn 11:55 am

Next Scheduled Meeting

June 9, 2022
Teams Call Only
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Handouts & Attachments

- Meeting Notes from 4/14/2022
- Agenda from 5/12/2022
- **Attachment A –** Aquatic Fund Scoring Template – Revised
- **Attachment B –** Merwin Adult Trap Collection Report (April 2022)
- **Attachment C –** Swift FSC Facility Collection Report (April 2022)
- **Attachment D –** Lewis River Fish Passage Report (April 2022)

Key points learned from 2021/2022 cycle

Make the aquatic fund program more inclusive

- Some applicants may lack the ability to manage contractors, appropriate lump sum funds, obtain permits or obtain required insurance coverage. If requested, more directed assistance should be provided to inform applicants of these requirements and assistance in determining whether partners would be needed for approval

Improve earlier engagement between ACC and applicants

- *Significant concerns* identified and addressed at applicant presentation meeting (Nov 10, 2022)
- ACC written request for clarification should include *significant concerns* that would lead to their rejection of the project (Dec 2, 2022).

Revise evaluation questions into statements

- Eliminate issue with yes/no (binary) questions
- Simplifies scoring using the 1 to 10 scoring template.

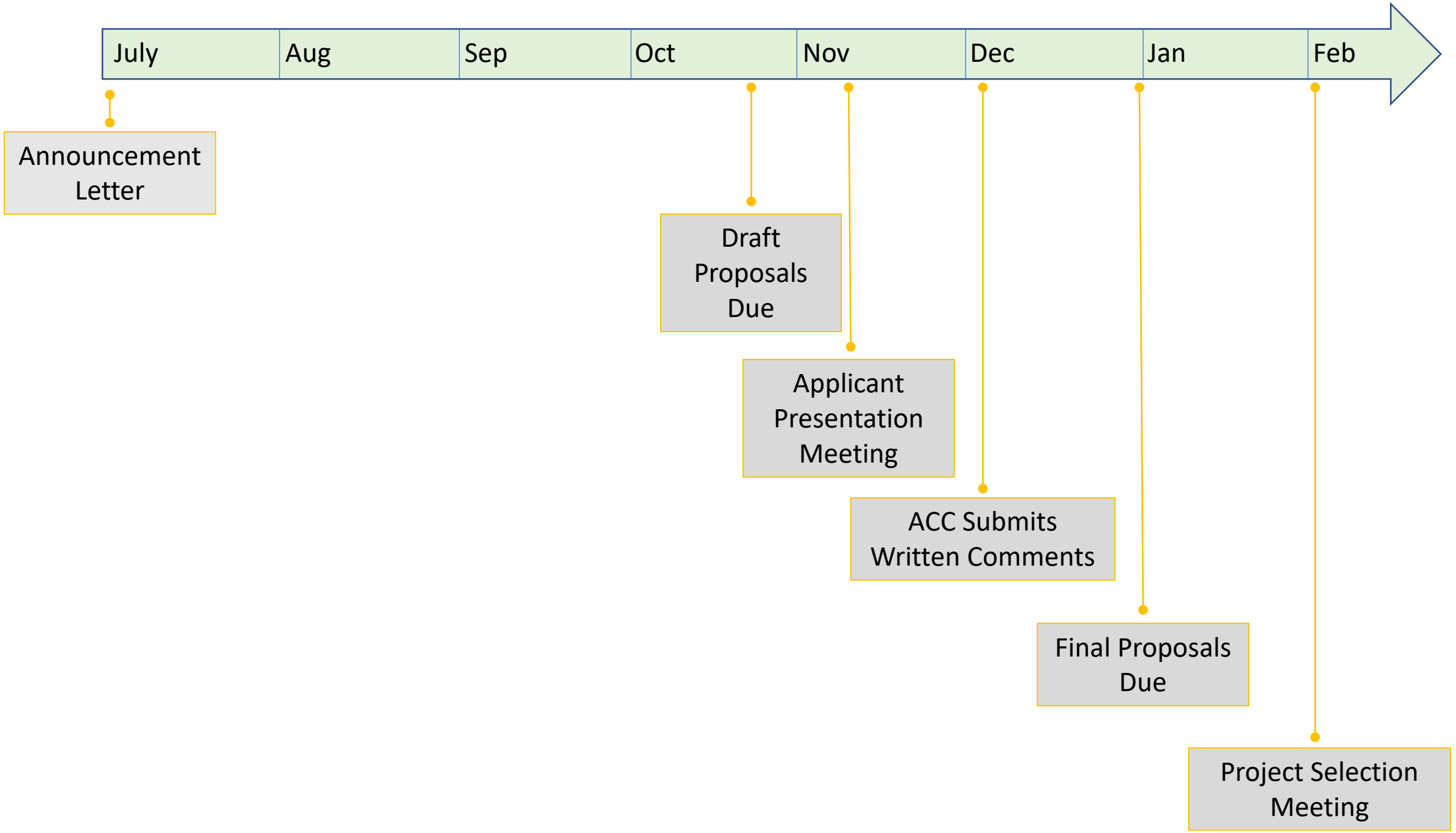
What should not change?

- No increase in the number of proposal reviews or iterations
- The risk of proposal rejection ultimately lies with the applicants

2022/2023 Aquatic Fund Schedule and Milestones

Activity	Milestone Date	Notes
Request for proposals distributed along with landowner acknowledgement form (Announcement Letter)	Jul 1, 2022	Provides more time for applicants to develop proposals. Include evaluation criteria in letter.
Utilities act as liaison between applicants and ACC	*Jul 1 - Oct 20, 2022*	Intended to help support public applicants that are new to the process in developing complete proposals and to ensure the applicants are aware of the requirements prior to submittal. Includes monthly updates to the ACC.
Draft proposals due to ACC	Oct 21, 2022	
Conduct Proposed Project Information Meeting (applicant presentations)	Nov 10, 2022	ACC should be prepared to identify potential fatal flaws in the proposals (cost, technical, priority objectives). More engagement needed here
ACC members submit written request for clarification of project information if questions not answered during presentation meeting	Dec 2, 2022	Written questions should address any ongoing fatal flaws that may preclude a vote approving the applicants proposal.
Final proposals due	Dec 30, 2022	
Full proposals and Evaluation template submitted to ACC for 30-day review and scoring	Jan 5, 2023	
Scoring template due to Utilities	Feb 2, 2023	
Distribute combined scores to ACC	Feb 3, 2023	
Conduct Project Selection Meeting*	Feb 9, 2023	
Provide additional 7-day review period for absentee ACC participants	Feb 10, 2023	
Submit project selection report to the FERC	Apr 15, 2023	

** Proposal authors are not allowed to attend the project selection meeting*


July
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Feb
Announcement Letter
Draft Proposals Due
Applicant Presentation Meeting
ACC Submits Written Comments
Final Proposals Due
Project Selection Meeting

Evaluation Questions or Criteria?

	Current **Evaluation Questions**	Proposed **Evaluation Criteria (statements)**
1	Does the project provide direct benefit(s) to priority species and habitat reaches?	The project provides direct benefits to priority species and habitats
2	Does the project lead to or provide tangible, on the ground benefits?	The project provides tangible and on the ground benefits
3	Does the project address a limiting factor(s) to the target species without adversely impacting other species, life history stages, or habitat processes?	Limiting factors are addressed for target species without adversely affecting other species
4	Does the proposal apply appropriate and proven methods, designs and technologies?	The proposed methods, design and technologies are proven and appropriate.
5	Are the project objectives identified appropriate and justified given the proposed scope and schedule?	The project objectives are appropriate and consistent with the scope and schedule
6	Does the project describe and consider long term benefits and influences (e.g., watershed processes, hydro operations, climate change, etc.)?	The project describes and considers long-term benefits and influences (e.g., watershed processes, hydro operations, climate change, etc.)
7	To what extent do constraints or contingencies affect project implementation (e.g., permitting, legal, location, funding, etc)?	Constraints or contingencies are not likely to affect project implementation (e.g., permitting, legal, location, funding, etc.)
8	Is the probability of success high, medium or low?	There is a high likelihood the project will be successful
9	How qualified and experienced is the project team in successfully completing projects of similar scope, nature, and magnitude?	The project team has the necessary qualifications or experience to successfully complete the project
10	To what extent would other habitat protection, assessments, or restoration actions in the watershed positively impact or compliment the project?	Other habitat protection, assessments or restoration actions in the watershed compliment the project
11	To what extent do other funding sources support the project (e.g., matching contributions, in-kind participation, grants, etc.)?	The project budget identifies additional funding sources (e.g., matching contributions, in-kind contributions, grants, etc.)
12	Are project costs reasonable by work effort and type (administration, permitting, goods and services, rentals, labor, contracts, etc.)?	The budget is reasonable given the proposed work effort and type (administration, permitting, goods and services, contracts, labor, rentals, etc.)
13	Are the total costs justified based on expected short and long-term benefits to fish?	The budget justifies the anticipated short and long-term benefits to fish
14	To what extent is maintenance required after project completion?	Post project maintenance is reasonable and justified

2021/2022 Aquatic Fund Schedule and Milestones

2021/2022 Lewis River Aquatic Fund Process Timeline

Activity	Target Milestone Date
Request for proposals distributed along with landowner acknowledgement form	July 5
Draft Full Proposals due to ACC	October 25
Conduct Proposed Project Information Meeting *(applicant presentations)*	November 16 ACC Meeting
ACC members submit written request for clarification of project information if questions not answered in previous meeting/presentation.	December 3
Final Full Proposals due (ACC requests for clarification need to be included as an Appendix)	December 31
Final Full Proposals submitted to ACC for 30-day review and evaluation	January 4
ACC scoring template due to Utilities	February 1
Distribute combined master scoring template to ACC	February 3
*Conduct Project Selection Meeting	February 10 ACC meeting
Provide add'l 7-day review period for absentee ACC participants, if needed	February 17
Submit Project Selection Report to FERC	By April 15th

*Project applicants not permitted to attend this meeting.

Fish Facility Report
Merwin Adult Trap
April 2022

Reporting Date	Spring Chinook (1)								
	AD-Clip			Wild			Recap		
	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK
1-Apr	1	2	1						
2-Apr	3	5							
3-Apr		3			1				
4-Apr									
5-Apr		1							
6-Apr	1	1			1				
7-Apr	2	4		1					
8-Apr	6	5		1					
9-Apr	5	4			1				
10-Apr	1	3	2						
11-Apr	8	3		2					
12-Apr	22	18		5	4				
13-Apr	7	5	1	4					
14-Apr	8	7		4	2				
15-Apr	10	7	1	2	3				
16-Apr	9	7	1	2	1				
17-Apr	20	16		4	2				
18-Apr	18	17	2	4	2				
19-Apr	11	11	1	2	4				
20-Apr	39	33	10	9	8				
21-Apr	13	14	2	4	1				
22-Apr	29	39	3	10	6				
23-Apr	24	15		3	1				
24-Apr	11	11	2	1	2				
25-Apr	12	16	1	2	1				
26-Apr	37	32	5	12	9				
27-Apr	26	24	5	4	6				
28-Apr	16	18	3		2				
29-Apr	23	19		4	2				
30-Apr	37	34		6	2				
Monthly	**399**	**374**	**40**	**86**	**61**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Annual	**412**	**379**	**41**	**89**	**62**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Reporting Date	Early Coho												Late Coho											
	AD-Clip			CWT			Wild			Recap			AD-Clip			CWT			Wild			Recap		
	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK
1-Apr																								
2-Apr																								
3-Apr																								
4-Apr																								
5-Apr																								
6-Apr																								
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27-Apr																								
28-Apr																								
29-Apr																								
30-Apr																								
Monthly	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Annual	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5**	**1**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Reporting Date	S. Steelhead						W. Steelhead							
	Fresh		Recap		Wild		AD-Clip		BWT		Recap		Wild	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1-Apr									4	1			1	
2-Apr							2	1	4		1		1	
3-Apr							1		5					1
4-Apr								2	5	1				1
5-Apr									3					
6-Apr								2	6	6				
7-Apr							1		8	3				
8-Apr								1	6	5			1	3
9-Apr									11	2	1		1	1
10-Apr									4	4				1
11-Apr									8	4			1	2
12-Apr							2		6	4			1	1
13-Apr								1	4					4
14-Apr								1	10	6			1	2
15-Apr									8	4				
16-Apr									4	2				
17-Apr								2	10	10				2
18-Apr							1		7	2			1	3
19-Apr									5	7			1	3
20-Apr									5	3			1	
21-Apr									6	6			2	3
22-Apr								1	14	3			2	1
23-Apr									5	4				2
24-Apr								1	2	3			3	1
25-Apr									7	1			1	1
26-Apr									4	5			3	1
27-Apr										4			1	4
28-Apr									4	2				2
29-Apr									1	2				
30-Apr									1				1	2
Monthly	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7**	**12**	**167**	**94**	**2**	**0**	**23**	**41**
Annual	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**377**	**290**	**282**	**128**	**2**	**0**	**60**	**69**

Reporting Date	Fall Chinook									Sockeye		Chum		Pink		Cutthroat	Rainbow (< 20 inches)	Bull Trout	Daily Total
	AD-Clip			Wild			Recap												
	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	JK	M	F	M	F	M	F				
1-Apr																			**10**
2-Apr																			**17**
3-Apr																			**11**
4-Apr																			**9**
5-Apr																			**4**
6-Apr																			**17**
7-Apr																			**19**
8-Apr																			**28**
9-Apr																			**26**
10-Apr																			**15**
11-Apr																			**28**
12-Apr																			**63**
13-Apr																			**26**
14-Apr																			**41**
15-Apr																			**35**
16-Apr																1			**27**
17-Apr																			**66**
18-Apr																			**57**
19-Apr																			**45**
20-Apr																1			**109**
21-Apr																2			**53**
22-Apr																			**108**
23-Apr																			**54**
24-Apr																			**37**
25-Apr																			**42**
26-Apr																			**108**
27-Apr																			**74**
28-Apr																			**47**
29-Apr																			**51**
30-Apr																			**83**
Monthly	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**1310**
Annual	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**10**	**0**	**0**	**2225**

1 Only hatchery verses wild distinctions are currently being made. All hatchery fish are labeled as "AD-Clip".

2 Total counts do not include recaptured salmon.

Fish Facility Report

Swift Floating Surface Collector

April 2022

	Coho			Chinook			Steelhead				Cutthroat			Bull	Planted	
Day	**fry**	**parr**	**smolt**	**fry**	**parr**	**smolt**	**fry**	**parr**	**smolt**	**kelt**	**fry**	**<13 in**	**> 13 in**	**Trout**	**Rainbow**	**Total**
1		52	65			24			1			1	1	0	30	**174**
2		75	57			35		1	0			4		0	36	**208**
3	5	47	96		3	29			8			3		0	39	**230**
4		41	53			13			5			2		0	98	**212**
5	2	24	38	2		5			2			1	1	0	80	**155**
6		26	113			21		1	7					0	55	**223**
7	4	21	47			24			5					0	42	**143**
8	4	20	35			22		1	12					0	14	**108**
9	5	9	18			7			1			1		1	7	**49**
10	5	7	29		1	7		1	2					0	11	**63**
11			25			6			4					0	23	**58**
12		1	15			2			0					0	16	**34**
13		9	15			8		1	0					0	4	**37**
14	7		13	1		7		1	6					0	7	**42**
15		1	5			0			0					0	2	**8**
16	1	8	11		1	1			5			1		0	16	**44**
17		2	10			0			1			1		0	8	**22**
18		3	33			7			38					0	23	**104**
19	1		10			3			4					0	1	**19**
20	5		44	1		5			34					1	23	**113**
21	1		196			4			43					0	75	**319**
22	8	2	96			10			75					0	54	**245**
23	20	1	144			17		1	54					0	36	**273**
24	28	9	178			11			68			1		0	58	**353**
25	18	20	211			4			32			1	1	0	74	**361**
26		11	261			11			31			4	2	0	61	**381**
27		5	353			9		2	36			1		0	62	**468**
28	6	8	243			11			116			6	3	0	51	**444**
29	25		125			9			26					0	24	**209**
30		6	85			12			63			4	1	0	82	**253**
Monthly	145	408	2624	4	5	324	0	9	679	0	0	31	9	2	1112	**5352**
Total	386	14025	6023	38	143	1501	5	18	795	0	2	143	15	8	1722	**24824**

Lewis River Fish Passage Report

April 2022

Merwin Fish Collection Facility and General Operations

During the month of April, a total of 1,310 fish were captured at the Merwin Dam Adult Fish Collection Facility (MFCF), representing a nearly 500% increase over the March total of 224. Spring Chinook were the most abundant species collected (n= 960), followed by winter steelhead (n= 346), and cutthroat trout (n= 4). With the Spring Chinook run approximately 19 percent complete (based on 2014 – 2021 run timing), cumulative Spring Chinook totals remain considerably higher than the 2014 – 2021 average (Figure 1). All natural-origin Spring Chinook were transported upstream of Swift Dam.

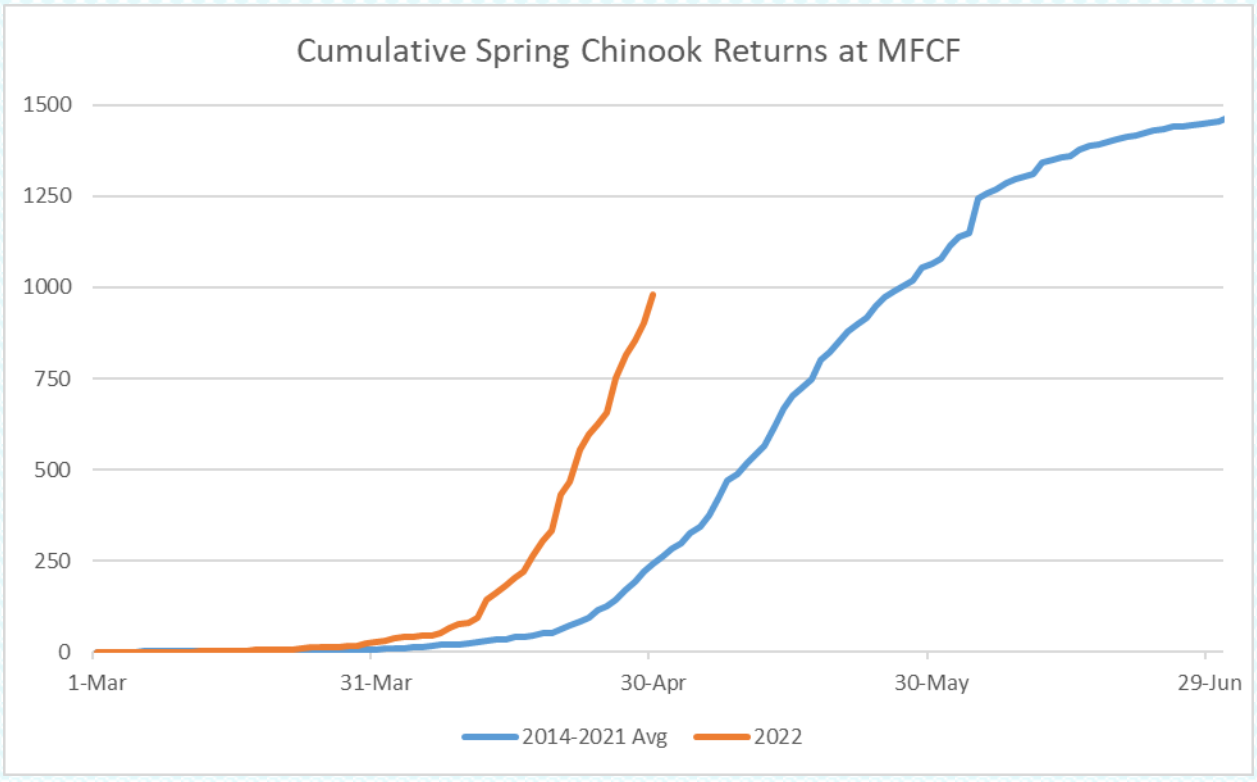

Figure 1. Cumulative Spring Chinook returns to the Merwin Dam Adult Fish Collection Facility, 2022.

The MFCF ran continuously for the month of April. Flows below Merwin Dam ranged from approximately 3,000 c.f.s. to approximately 6,500 c.f.s. (Figure 2).

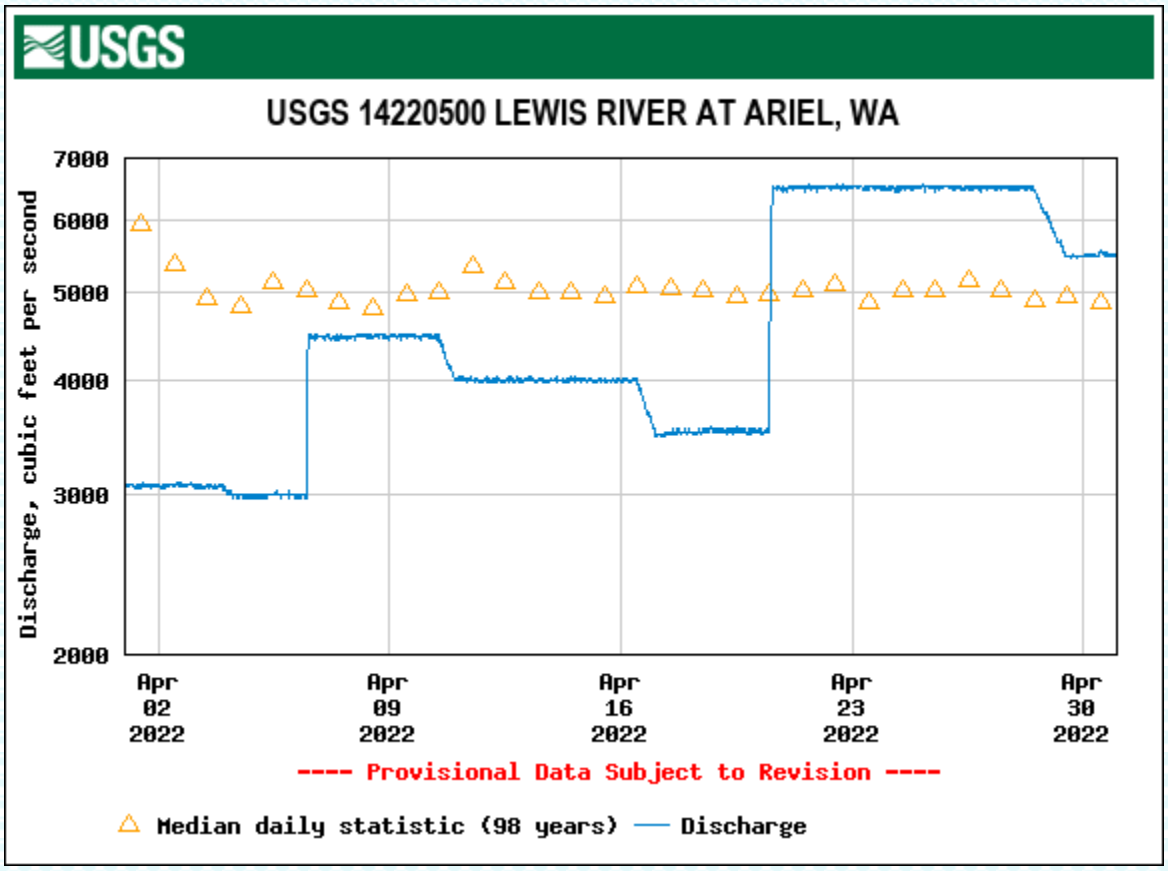

Figure 2. Discharge in cubic feet per second recorded at the USGS Ariel, WA gauge (14220500) located immediately downstream of Merwin Dam.

Four natural-origin steelhead and two Chinook collected at the MFCF in April had been previously PIT tagged as juveniles on Swift Reservoir (at either the Swift FSC or Eagle Cliff Screw Trap). One Cutthroat trout that had been previously tagged at the Merwin Trap in October of 2021, was recaptured in April as well. For 2022, six wild winter steelhead, two Chinook, and one cutthroat trout captured by Merwin Trap had been previously PIT tagged.

Upstream Transport

A total of total of 513 adult fish were transported above Swift Dam this month, the majority of which were Blank Wire Tag Winter steelhead (n=259). Spring Chinook (n= 205), NOR winter steelhead (n= 45), and cutthroat trout (n=4) were also transported upstream in April. For calendar year 2022 to-date, 502 winter steelhead (405 BWT/97 NOR), 210 Spring Chinook (58 HOR/152 NOR), ten cutthroat trout, and eight NOR coho have been transported upstream of Swift Dam.

Floating Surface Collector (FSC)

The Swift Reservoir Floating Surface Collector (FSC) was operational throughout the entirety of April. A total of 5,352 fish were collected this month; a decrease from the March total of 8,578. Unseasonably cold weather conditions early in the month resulting in below average water temperatures likely contributed to the slowing of outmigration during this period. Coho were the most predominant species collected in April (n= 3,177), followed by hatchery rainbow trout (n= 1,112), steelhead (n= 688), spring Chinook (n= 333), cutthroat trout (n= 40), and Bull Trout (n=2) (Table 1). All Bull Trout were returned to Swift Reservoir.

Table 1: Total number of out-migrating juvenile salmonids (by species) collected at the Swift FSC during the month of April since 2013.

	April Collection Totals by Run Year at the Swift FSC				
Run Year	**Coho**	**Chinook**	**Steelhead**	**Cutthroat**	**TOTAL**
2013	**953**	**173**	**5**	**53**	**1,184**
2014	**2,174**	**175**	**65**	**102**	**2,516**
2015	**739**	**535**	**143**	**63**	**1,480**
2016	**10,504**	**282**	**499**	**168**	**11,453**
2017	**902**	**340**	**219**	**52**	**1,513**
2018	**2,795**	**657**	**815**	**147**	**4,414**
2019	**6,117**	**610**	**223**	**113**	**7,063**
2020	**2,106**	**6,519**	**1,282**	**109**	**10,016**
2021	**1,271**	**878**	**661**	**59**	**2,869**
2022	**3,177**	**333**	**688**	**40**	**4,138**

The observed length frequencies for coho, Chinook, and steelhead generally indicate that two Brood Years (2019 and 2020) were represented in the April collection totals (Figures 3-5).

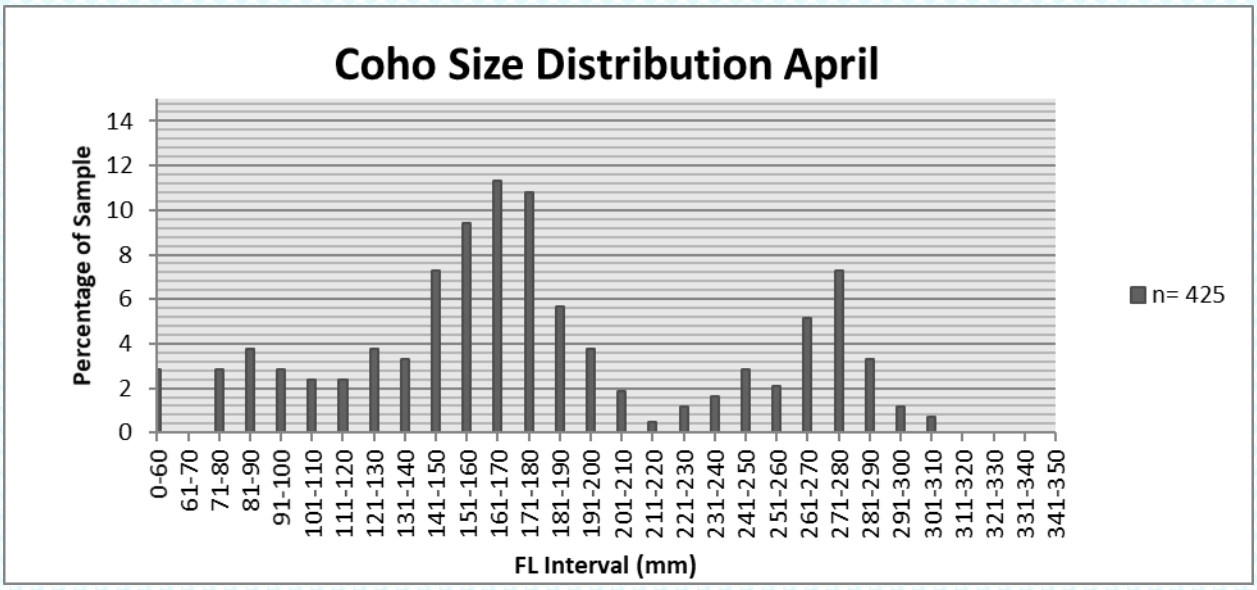

Figure 3. Observed length frequency distribution of coho collected at the Swift FSC during the month of April, 2022.

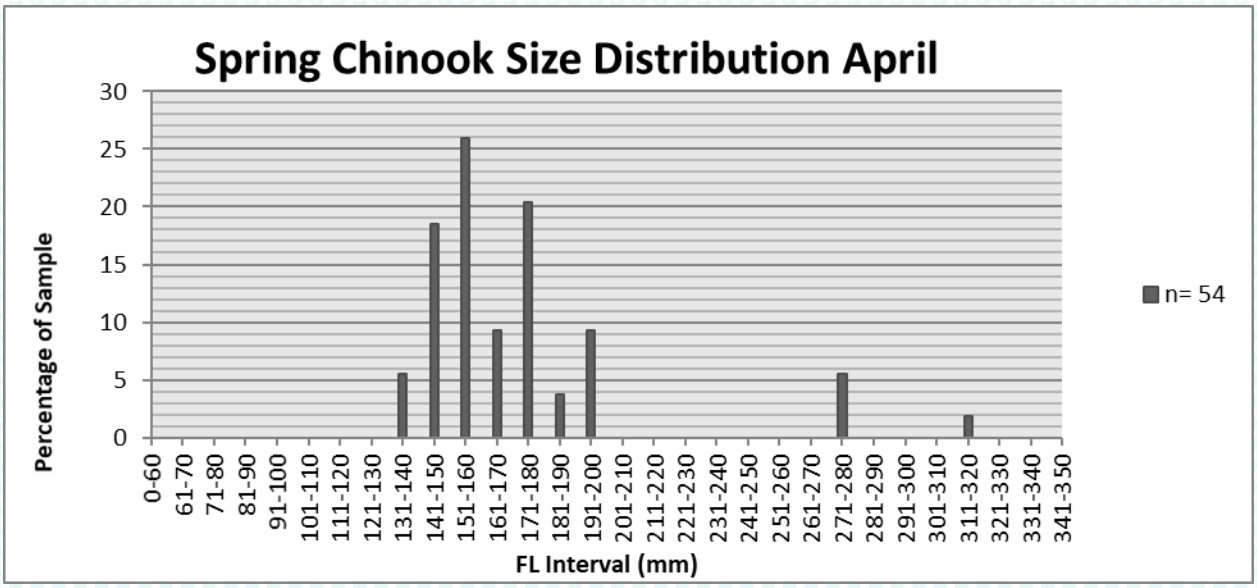

Figure 4. Observed length frequency distribution of Chinook collected at the Swift FSC during the month of April, 2022.

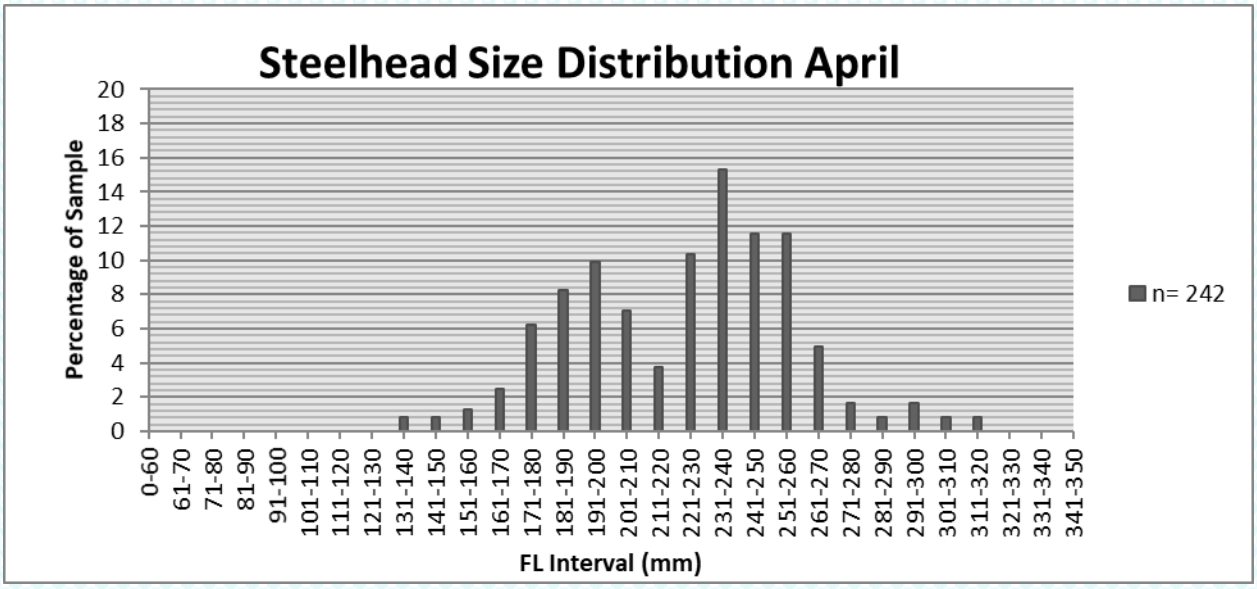

Figure 5. Observed length frequency distribution of steelhead collected at the Swift FSC during the month of April, 2022.